

House Resolution 116 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY DEYOE, BALTIMORE, HEDDENS, and WESSEL-KROESCHELL

1 A Resolution congratulating Dan Shechtman of the Iowa
2 State University College of Engineering, the United
3 States Department of Energy's Ames Laboratory, and
4 Technion-Israel Institute of Technology on his
5 receipt of the 2011 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.
6 WHEREAS, Dr. Shechtman serves as a professor
7 of materials science and engineering at Iowa State
8 University; research scientist at the United
9 States Department of Energy's Ames Laboratory; and
10 distinguished professor at Technion-Israel Institute of
11 Technology in Haifa, Israel; and
12 WHEREAS, on the morning of April 8, 1982, Dr.
13 Shechtman discovered the existence of quasicrystals, a
14 new atomic structure for solid materials; and
15 WHEREAS, this structure was previously thought
16 to be impossible by the scientific and engineering
17 community; and
18 WHEREAS, Dr. Shechtman endured significant
19 skepticism and criticism from professional peers but
20 stood firm in his convictions and in the accuracy and
21 import of this discovery; and
22 WHEREAS, Dr. Shechtman's findings were independently
23 confirmed by other researchers around the world,
24 including scientists at the United States Department of
25 Energy's Ames Laboratory and Iowa State University; and
26 WHEREAS, the discovery of quasicrystals resulted in
27 textbooks being rewritten; and
28 WHEREAS, the discovery of quasicrystals has

1 increased knowledge and the fundamental understanding
2 of solid materials; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2004, Dr. Shechtman joined Iowa State
4 University as a professor of materials science and
5 engineering in the College of Engineering and the
6 United States Department of Energy's Ames Laboratory,
7 as a research scientist; and

8 WHEREAS, he continues to teach students and conduct
9 research in Iowa; and

10 WHEREAS, in recognition of his groundbreaking
11 scientific achievements, the Royal Swedish Academy of
12 Sciences awarded Dr. Shechtman the 2011 Nobel Prize in
13 Chemistry; NOW THEREFORE,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
15 the House or Representatives honors Dr. Dan Shechtman
16 for his groundbreaking discovery of quasicrystals,
17 his perseverance, and his contributions to teaching
18 and research at Iowa State University and the Ames
19 Laboratory, which culminated in his receipt of the 2011
20 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.